



**PARLIAMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC  
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF  
SRI LANKA**

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**POLONNARUWA BUDDHIST SOCIETY  
(INCORPORATION)**

**A**

**BILL**

**to incorporate the Polonnaruwa Buddhist Society**

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*Presented by Hon. Malith Jayathilake, M.P. on 08th February, 2017*

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**[Bill No. 163]**

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*Polonnaruwa Buddhist Society*  
(Incorporation)

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE POLONNARUWA BUDDHIST SOCIETY

WHEREAS an Society called and known as the “Polonnaruwa Buddhist Society” has heretofore been formed in Sri Lanka for the purpose of effectually carrying out its objects and transacting all matters connected with the said Society according to the rules agreed to by its members:

Preamble.

AND WHEREAS the said Society has heretofore successfully carried out and transacted several objects and matters for which it was established, and has applied to be incorporated and it will be for the public advantage to grant the said application:

BE it therefore enacted by the Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Polonnaruwa Buddhist Society (Incorporation) Act, No. of 2017.

Short title.

2. From and after the date of commencement of this Act, such and so many persons as now are members of the “Polonnaruwa Buddhist Society” (hereinafter referred to as the “Society”) or shall hereafter be admitted as members of the Corporation hereby constituted, shall be a body corporate, with perpetual succession under the name and style of the “Polonnaruwa Buddhist Society” (hereinafter referred to as the “Corporation”) and by that name may sue and be sued, with full power and authority to have and use a common seal and to alter the same at its pleasure.

Incorporation of the Polonnaruwa Buddhist Society.

3. The general objects for which the Corporation is constituted are hereby declared to be :—

General objects of the Corporation.

(a) to establish an strong social organization which could volunteer to the wider socio welfare activities with the view of upholding Buddhist renaissance in the district upon the advice and right leadership of Maha Sanga towards bringing up a just religious society;

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*(Incorporation)*

- (b) to provide pilgrim rest house facilities to the local and foreigners who visit to worship and witness the historical monuments of Polonnaruwa everyday;
- 5 (c) to provide goods and monetary support with the view of developing those undeveloped Viharas, Temples and Dhaham schools in the district ;
- (d) to pioneer to promote mutual support and understandings among all the communities and religions;
- 10 (e) to help the lower income families in the District in order to uplift their economic situation;
- (f) to assist in all possible way to those who suffer economic hardship unable to get treatment for severe diseases who resides permanently in the District;
- 15 (g) to provide relief assistance to those affected by natural disasters, cyclone, flood, droughts, Tsunami and those who suffered loses by any battle in any part of Sri Lanka; and act to minimize any such damages;
- 20 (h) to publish electronic and print publications in order to establish a healthy society; and take action to hold medical camps in the District;
- (i) to grant scholarships, books and school stationeries to the needy school students as well as university students of low income; to conduct educational seminars and to assist the students to develop their various talents in the District;
- 25 (j) to establish a just society through organizing, directing and practicing the sill campaign, meditation programmes and Bodhi Poojas in the District;

- (k) to act delicately in order to bring up an alcohol free just society by eradicating liquor and tobacco which has become a menace to the Corporation in the District;
- 5 (l) to implement above objectives in the other District of the country with the approval of the Board of Management; and
- (m) to do all such other acts and things as are necessary for and incidental or conducive to the attainment of
- 10 the above objects.

4. Subject to the provisions of this Act and any other written law, the Corporation shall have the power to do, perform and execute, all such acts and matters as necessary or desirable for the promotion or furtherance of the objects

15 of the Corporation or any one of them, including the power—

General Powers of the Corporation.

- (a) to raise funds and receive grants, gifts or donations, in cash or kind;
- (b) to acquire, in any manner whatsoever and hold, take or give on lease or hire, rent, sell or otherwise dispose of, any movable or immovable property and construct, maintain and alter any buildings or works necessary or convenient for the business of the Corporation ;
- 20
- (c) to make, draw, accept, discount, endorse, negotiate, buy, sell and issue bills of exchange, cheques, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments and to open, operate and close bank accounts and borrow or raise money with or without security ;
- 25
- (d) to invest any funds not immediately required for the purposes of the Corporation in such manner as the Board of Management may determine ;
- 30

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- 5 (e) to enter into agreement or contracts with any person or body of persons incorporated in Sri Lanka or with any Government Department, Corporation, Board, Provincial Council or Local Authority for the achievement of the objects of the Corporation ;
- (f) to determine the fees to be paid in respect of registration of different categories of membership; and
- 10 (g) appoint, employ, dismiss or terminate the services of officers and servants of the Corporation and to pay them such salaries, allowances and gratuities as may be determined by the Corporation.

15 5. (1) The affairs of the Corporation shall, subject to the other provisions of this Act and the rules in force for the time being of the Corporation, be administered by a Board of Management consisting of Seven Members including the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, the Secretary, Treasurer and another Chief Organizer elected in accordance with such  
20 rules.

Management  
of the  
Corporation.

(2) The Board of Management of the Corporation subject to the sub paragraph (1) above, shall consist of the members of the Board of Management of the day immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Act.

25 (3) A member of the Board of Management of this Corporation incorporated by this Act, shall unless he vacates his office earlier by death or resignation, hold office for a period of four years. Where due to death or resignation a vacancy occurs in the Board of Management a new member  
30 shall be appointed to fill such vacancy and such a new member shall hold office for a lapsed period by the successive member.

6. (1) It shall be lawful for the Corporation, from time to time at any general meeting and by the votes of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting, to make rules, not inconsistent with the provision of this Act, or any other written law, for the admission, withdrawal or expulsion of members, the election of the Board of Management, for the conduct of the duties of the office bearers, agents, officers and servants of the Corporation for the procedure to be followed in the transaction of business by the Corporation and Board of Management and generally, for the management of the affairs of the Corporation and the accomplishment of its objects. Such rules when made may at a like meeting and in like manner, be altered, added to, amended or rescinded.

Rules of the Corporation.

(2) The members of the Corporation shall be subject to the rules of the Corporation.

7. (1) The Board shall cause to be maintained a register in which every person who on the date of commencement of this Act, is a member of the Corporation and every person thereafter duly admitted as member of the Corporation shall have inscribed in such register his name.

Register of members.

(2) The register shall contain the following particulars:-

- (a) name, address and occupation of the each member of the Corporation;
- (b) the date on which the name of the member was inscribed in the register; and
- (c) the date on which any person ceased to be a member.

8. (1) The Corporation shall have its own Fund. All moneys received by way of gift, bequest, donation, transfer, subscription, contribution or fees shall be deposited to the credit of the Corporation in one or more Banks as the Board of Management shall determine.

Fund of the Corporation.

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5 (2) There shall be paid out of the Fund of the Corporation, with the approval of the Board of Management, all such sums of money as may be required to defray any expenditure incurred by the Corporation in carrying out the objects of the Corporation.

10 (3) The moneys and property of the Corporation whosoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects as set forth herein and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise, to any member of the Corporation.

9. (1) The financial year of the Corporation shall be the calendar year. Accounts and Audit of the Corporation.

15 (2) The Corporation shall cause proper accounts to be kept of income and expenditure, assets and liabilities and all other transactions of the Corporation.

(3) The accounts of the Corporation shall be audited by a qualified auditor as may be determined by the Board.

(4) In this section, "Qualified Auditor" means —

20 (a) an individual who being a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka, or any other institute established by law, possesses a certificate to practice as an Accountant issued by the Council of that  
25 institute; or

(b) a firm of Accountants each of the resident partners of which, being a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka or of any other institute established by law, possesses a certificate to practice as an  
30 Accountant issued by the Council of that institute.

10. The seal of the Corporation shall not be affixed to any instrument whatsoever, except in the presence of the Seal of the Corporation.

Chairman and the Secretary who shall sign their names and the number of Identity Card on the instrument in token of their presence and such signing shall be independent of the signing of any person as a witness.

- 5      **11.** All debts and liabilities of the Society existing on the day preceding the date of commencement of this Act, shall be paid by the Corporation hereby constituted, and all debts due to, and subscriptions and contributions payable to the Society on that day shall be paid to the Corporation  
10 for the purpose of this Act. Debts due by and payable to the Corporation.
- 15      **12.** The Corporation shall be able and capable in law, with the approval of the Board of Management, to take and hold any property, movable or immovable, which may become vested in it by virtue of any purchase, grant, gift, testamentary disposition or otherwise, and all such property shall be held by the Corporation for the purposes of this Act and subject to the rules in force for the time being of the Corporation, with full power to sell, mortgage, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of the same. Corporation may hold property movable and immovable.
- 20      **13.** If upon the dissolution of the Corporation there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, such property shall not be distributed among the members of the Corporation but shall be given or transferred to some other institute or institutes  
25 having objects similar to those of the Corporation, and which is, or are, by the rules thereof prohibited from distributing any income or property among its or their members. Such institution or institutions shall be determined by the Board at or immediately before the dissolution of the Corporation. Property remaining on dissolution.
- 30      **14.** Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or affect the rights of the Republic or of any body politic or corporate or of any other person, except such as are mentioned in this Act and those claiming by, from or under them. Saving of the rights of the Republic and others.
- 35      **15.** In the event of any inconsistency between the Sinhala and Tamil texts of this Act, the Sinhala text shall prevail. Sinhala text to prevail in case of inconsistency.



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